

S. CON. RES. 140

Whereas Taiwan is the seventh largest trading partner of the United States and plays an important role in the economy of the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas Taiwan routinely holds free and fair elections in a multiparty system, as evidenced most recently by Taiwan's second democratic presidential election of March 18, 2000, in which Mr. Chen Shui-bian was elected as president of the 23,000,000 people of Taiwan;

Whereas Members of Congress, unlike executive branch officials, have long had the freedom to meet with leaders of governments with which the United States does not have formal relations—meetings which provide a vital opportunity to discuss issues of mutual concern that directly affect United States national interests;

Whereas several Members of Congress expressed interest in meeting with President Chen Shui-bian during his 16-hour layover in Los Angeles, California, en route to Latin America and Africa on August 13, 2000;

Whereas the meeting with President Chen did not take place because of pressure from Washington and Beijing;

Whereas Congress thereby lost the opportunity to communicate directly with President Chen about developments in the Asia-Pacific region and key elements of the relationship between the United States and Taiwan when he visited Los Angeles;

Whereas there could not be a more important time to find opportunities to talk to Taiwan's new leaders given the enormous economic, security, and political interests we share with both Taiwan and the People's Republic of China, as well as the results of the recent election in Taiwan which provided for the first party leadership change in Taiwan's history;

Whereas Congress must continue to play an independent oversight role on United States policy toward Taiwan, and try to find ways to reduce the threat of war between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China, and in particular, to counteract China's buildup of missiles pointed at Taiwan;

Whereas the United States continues to cling to its policy of more than 20 years, which prohibits high-ranking Taiwan leaders from making official visits to the United States, forcing Members of Congress to choose whether to rely solely upon indirect assessments provided by the administration or to travel to Taiwan to obtain this information firsthand, and denying Taiwan's democratically elected officials the respect they deserve;

Whereas by bestowing upon President Chen the respect his office deserves, the United States would have demonstrated to the people of both Taiwan and the People's Republic of China United States support for democracy; and

Whereas the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-416) provides that the President of Taiwan shall be welcome in the United States at any time to discuss a host of important issues: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—*

(1) it is in the interest of Congress and the executive branch of the United States to communicate directly with elected and appointed top officials of Taiwan, including its democratically elected president; and

(2) the United States should end restrictions on high-level visits by officials of Taiwan to the United States.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 362—RECOGNIZING AND HONORING ROBERTO CLEMENTE AS A GREAT HUMANITARIAN AND AN ATHLETE OF UNFANTHOMABLE SKILL

Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mr. SPECTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 362

Whereas Roberto Clemente's athletic legacy has been honored by the City of Pittsburgh with a 14 foot bronze statue and the naming of a bridge over the Allegheny River located just outside the centerfield gate of the new baseball stadium in Pittsburgh;

Whereas Roberto Clemente led the Pittsburgh Pirates to World Championship titles in 1960 and 1971, winning the Series Most Valuable Player Award in 1971 when he batted .414 with two home runs against Baltimore;

Whereas during his 18 year career with the Pittsburgh Pirates, Roberto Clemente won four National League batting crowns, the 1966 National League Most Valuable Player award, and ended his career with a .317 lifetime average, 240 homers, and 1,305 runs batted in;

Whereas on September 30, 1972, Roberto Clemente became the 11th Major League Baseball player to record 3,000 hits with a 4th inning double off of New York Mets left hander Jon Matlack;

Whereas Roberto Clemente was one of the first Latin American baseball players in the Major Leagues, and as such he faced language barriers and racial segregation throughout his career;

Whereas Roberto Clemente worked tirelessly to improve professional baseball's understanding of the unique challenges faced by young Latin American baseball players thrust into a new culture and language;

Whereas in August of 1973, Roberto Clemente became just the second player to have the mandatory five-year waiting period waived as he was inducted posthumously into the National Baseball Hall of Fame;

Whereas in 1984, Roberto Clemente became the second baseball player to be honored for his athletic and philanthropic achievements with an appearance on a United States postage stamp;

Whereas Roberto Clemente devoted himself to improving the lives of inner city youth in Puerto Rico and throughout the United States, putting into action his belief that sport could be a stepping stone to a better life for underprivileged youth;

Whereas Roberto Clemente tragically died in an airplane crash on December 31, 1972 as he accompanied relief supplies to Nicaragua to aid the victims of the devastating 1972 Managua earthquake;

Whereas Roberto Clemente's humanitarian legacy continues to this day, embodied by the Roberto Clemente Sports City in Puerto Rico, which creates an environment for the development of the human spirit through sport, and promotes community, education, and awareness of human rights: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—*

(1) Roberto Clemente was a great humanitarian and an athlete of unfathomable skill;

(2) Roberto Clemente should be honored for his contributions to the betterment of society; and,

(3) all Americans should honor Roberto Clemente's legacy every day through humanitarian and philanthropic efforts toward their fellow man.

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, as the last baseball games are about to be played in Pittsburgh's Three Rivers Stadium, a stadium referred to as the "House that Clemente Build," I am reminded of Roberto Clemente, one of the greatest athletes and humanitarians of all time. Every baseball fan can recite Roberto's achievements during his professional career as a Pittsburgh Pirate—from hitting a remarkable .317 over 18 seasons and collecting 3,000 hits, to his 12 Gold Glove awards and 12 National League All Star Game appearances. However, it was his philanthropic gestures which truly represent Roberto Clemente's invaluable legacy.

As many people know, Roberto Clemente died tragically on December 31, 1972, after he and four others boarded a small DC-7 to deliver food, clothing and medicine to Nicaragua, to aid victims of a devastating earthquake. The four-engine plane, with a questionable past and an overload of cargo, crashed into the Atlantic Ocean, killing all aboard. What is not well known is that, upon hearing rumors that Nicaraguan government officials were delaying the delivery of relief supplies, Roberto Clemente left his New Year's celebration with family and friends to travel to Nicaragua in order to personally oversee the delivery of the Puerto Rican relief supplies to the individuals devastated by the Managua earthquake. On that fateful New Year's Eve night in 1972, the world lost not just a great athlete, arguably the greatest in the history of the Pittsburgh Pirates, but a humanitarian, a cultural icon, and a hero.

Mr. President, over the years, Roberto Clemente's dedication to his fellow man became legendary. As one of the first Latin America baseball players in the Major Leagues, Roberto Clemente faced language barriers and racial segregation throughout his career. He worked tirelessly to improve professional baseball's understanding of the unique challenges faced by young Latin American ballplayers thrust into a new culture and language as they start their baseball careers.

However, his concern for his fellow man did not stop at the foul lines. Throughout his career, Roberto Clemente expressed his concern for the troubled lives faced by urban youth both in the United States and Puerto Rico. In a 1966 interview with Myron Cope for "Sports Illustrated," Roberto Clemente discussed his desire to help youth by stoking their interest in sports. Roberto Clemente believed that sports could bring families together in an athletic setting while providing a stage for youngsters to excel. In what would be the final months of his life, Roberto Clemente conducted a series of baseball clinics for Puerto Rican youth in addition to fundraising efforts for a large sports facility dedicated to the youth of the world.